

4-24-2007

## Independent- Apr. 24, 2007

Patrick O'Brien

Follow this and additional works at: <https://neiudc.neiu.edu/independent>

---

### Recommended Citation

O'Brien, Patrick, "Independent- Apr. 24, 2007" (2007). *The Independent (1988-present)*. 367.  
<https://neiudc.neiu.edu/independent/367>

This Newspaper is brought to you for free and open access by the NEIU Student Newspapers at NEIU Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Independent (1988-present) by an authorized administrator of NEIU Digital Commons. For more information, please contact [neiudc@neiu.edu](mailto:neiudc@neiu.edu).





2007 ACP Award for Best Non-Weekly College Newspaper in America  
Northeastern Illinois University's

Tuesday, April 24, 2007  
Vol. 23, Issue 16

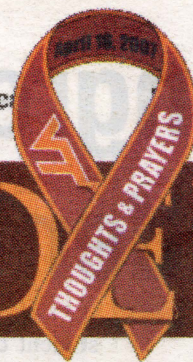
# INDEPENDENT

Chicago, IL

Member of the Associated Collegiate Press



www.neiuindependent.com



## In memoriam

4 - 16 - 2007



photo courtesy of www.vt.edu

• Ross Abdallah  
Alameddine

• Christopher  
James Bishop  
• Brian Roy  
Bluhm • Ryan  
Christopher

Clark • Austin  
Michelle Cloyd

• Jocelyne  
Couture

Nowak • Kevin  
P. Granata

• Matthew  
Gregory

Gwaltney  
• Caitlin Miller

Hummaren • Jeremy  
Michael Herbsritt

• Rachael  
Elizabeth Hill

• Emily Jane  
Hilscher

Jarrett Lee Lane  
• Matthew

Joseph La  
Porte • Henry

J. Lee • Livia  
Librescu • G.V.

Loganathan  
• Partam

Mamora  
Gregory

Hakomoun Lambunitorum • Lauren Ashley McCain  
Daniel Patrick O'Neil • Juan Ortiz-Ortiz • Minal

Hiralal Panchal •  
Daniel Alejandro

Perez • Erin  
Nicole Peterson

• Michael Steven  
Pohle, Jr. • Julia

Kathleen Pryde •  
Mary Karen Read

• Reema Joseph  
Samaha • Wilfred

Mohamed Shanlan  
• Leslie Geraldine

Sherman • Maxine  
Shelly Turner •

Nicole White

## Campuses mourn worst shooting rampage in U.S. history

*Haas reacts, Virginia Tech student  
editor gives account*

"Our news Editor Saira Haider was friends with a girl who was killed. It was hard for her," said Amy Steele Editor-in-Chief of Virginia Tech's student newspaper the *Colligate Times [CT]*. Still Mon April 16, Haider did her job as the news editor for *CT* reporting on the worst mass shooting in US history.

Steele said that there was a somber mood around the Virginia Tech campus and that many students had gone home after the tragedy. "Its

pretty much a ghost town, it is very weird to be walking around here with no people."

One of the issues being examined was the late notification to the campus of the emergency, "I found out at 9:00 [a.m.] when one of my reporters called me... The university thought it [the first shooting just after 7:00 a.m.] was a domestic and thought it was locked down," said Steele.

by Tom Robb  
News Editor

See VT pg. 5



# Congress makes student loans E-Z

by T.C. Chung  
Business Assistant

"Multi-billion dollar corporations fill out 13-question forms to receive million dollar Export-Import Bank loans. Shouldn't it be just as easy for high school seniors and their families to pay for college? American students deserve the same easy access to college financial aid." Said US Congressman Rahm Emmanuel (D-IL 5<sup>th</sup>) in a recent press release.

The newly elected Democratic Congress had a list of goals in their first hundred days in office. Easing the burden of paying for college was one of them.

"They've increased some of the amount of money that a

student can borrow through the Stafford Loan program...they've increased some of the aggregates for undergraduate programs," said Marshall Jennings, Director of Financial Aid. "The new bill allows dependent freshman students to borrow up to \$3500, up from \$2625; sophomore students \$4500, up from \$3500. Upperclassmen and Graduate student amounts remain the same."

The College Loan Made EZ Act simplifies the financial aid process by establishing an "EZ" form of the FAFSA form that cuts down the number of pages to two from five.

Creating a pre-FAFSA that allows students and parents to apply for financial aid while

students are juniors in high school, providing families one extra year to plan for how to cover college costs and improving online access to the FAFSA.

The page cut is a result of coordinating tax information already by the IRS, thereby reducing the number of questions needed to qualify for financial aid.

The cost of going to a four-year university has risen 41% since 2001. Congress has voted to cut loan interest in half as well as increasing the Pell Grant by \$260.

The Act would also increase the amount of money a student can take out for an undergraduate degree as well as extending the time to repay the money.

## Military vets form new unit at NEIU

by Felicia Williams  
Staff Writer

There are many people that help to protect the United States by serving in the armed forces. After their time is up, they return to loved ones and their everyday lives which often includes college.

NEIU has a student body of approximately 13,000 students and roughly 10% are veterans. Nick Skiba, an employee and a student at the university is spearheading the efforts to start a Veteran's Club.

The SGA is taking part in chartering the club and representative Peter Michalczyk said, "We finally have people interested in starting the club and seeing the process through."

Those behind the efforts are hoping to address several issues veterans face on a daily basis. The Veterans Club seeks to raise awareness of homeless veterans, promote unity among veterans through various organizations, create understanding of veterans unique needs, enhance the academic learning experience and to promote the recognition of Memorial Day and Veterans Day.

Michalczyk said that the club has to wait for the next SGA session so the Charter and Rules Committee can approve them. The next step would be for the entire senate to approve them.

NEIU's veterans are retired service personnel, both men and women, and they often have honorable discharges from the armed forces. According to the

U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs, there are 25 million veterans living today. Of that number, three out of every four veterans have served during a time of war or at a time of hostility.

Even though veterans have served the country, it has not always been 'easy' to fall back into the groove of things.

There was once a time where some returning home found it somewhat difficult to find a job, receive additional training and even get adequate health care.

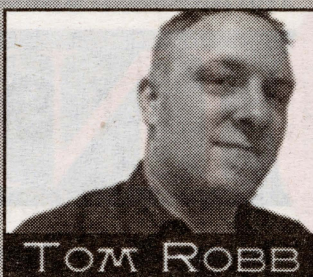
Since the early days of war, there has been a need to provide care for the returning veterans and in some cases, their widows and children. The U.S Department of Affairs has worked to meet the changing needs of US veterans over time.

Benefits that are awarded to our veterans include, but are not limited to health care, housing assistance and education. Many veterans return home and take classes to pick up trades while others go back to school.

The U.S Dept. of Veterans Affairs states that approximately 70 million people are eligible for benefits and services due to the fact that they are veterans, family members or survivors of veterans.

This year, the success of a new Veterans Club can be this university's contribution to raising awareness on veteran issues. Memorial Day is September 3<sup>rd</sup> and Veteran's Day is November 11<sup>th</sup>.

## A Closer Look ...



The excruciatingly slow wheels of progress

If the horrific events at Virginia Tech taught us anything it is that we must be proactive and get things done in a timely manor, especially where safety and clarity of policy are involved. This university has a hard time with that sometimes.

The Emergency Management Plan, a huge document, integrating policies and procedures, many already in place, from departments across the university and training people across departments to know what to do in almost any emergency, is not done. It is not surprising that it has taken a while; it is a mammoth undertaking, but four years? Law school takes less time.

Stuff happens. On this campus it feels often more than most. Surprising, disturbing, lamentable and sometimes even funny stuff happens. Not every semester but incidents happen with enough regularity that we should not be surprised when they do.

"Tense moments as professor, student brawl," "Recruiter issue run off scheduled tomorrow" these two headlines graced one paper's front page. The story was not written two months ago after the arrests of two students protesting the CIA on campus, but 36 years ago as reported in the June 24, 1970 issue of the NEIU *Print*, a predecessor to the *Independent*.

These issues of safety, security and free speech are not new. Stuff will happen and these issues will rear their ugly heads again and again. So why does everything take so long to get done and why does it seem the administration is a lot more reactive than proactive?

Is there a hope that the issue at hand will just kind of fade away as an old crop of students graduates and a new crop of freshmen and transfer students start. As another yet more surprising and bizarre event transfixes our attention will the old issues fade from view? Not at this school, NEIU students, as former University President Salme Steinberg said, students here take an average of eight years to graduate, they have a long institutional memory.

A few years ago some of the Socialists were passing out flyers outside Alumni Hall during a job fair. The campus cops gave them a hard time and they complained. A Free Speech Taskforce was formed to have really smart people from a cross section of the campus community figure it out and right the wrongs of the situation and come up with a healthy alternative.

That was all fine and good, but the recommendations of the Free Speech Taskforce still have not made it to President Hahs, never mind being adopted after a year and a half of work on the issue.

As the *Print* of 1970 points out, this is not the first time or even the second time something like the arrests last Feb at the CIA recruiting day happened. So why are we surprised.

I have a news flash, we are not getting out of the war any time soon so there will be more anti war and anti recruitment protesting. Putting a sign up saying, "no protesting" is not going to deter the hardened anti war crowd (see Vietnam).

"It's in draft form," and has been since 2003, Director of Public Safety Jim Lyon said about the Emergency Management Plan in Sept. 2005. This document, while close, is still not complete and implemented today.

Questions about safety procedures came about after six pounds mercury were spilled in the summer of 2005. Instead of calling the fire department, the school called the science department and forgot to call the Environmental Protection Agency.

More news, something toxic may spill again, something will catch on fire and someone will feel his or her rights have been violated. Instead of waiting for the next unforeseen disaster and taking literally years to react, how about getting the work in on time and thinking a head, or don't they teach that in college.

## Police Blotter

Compiled by Shirley Descorbeth  
Staff Writer

### Stolen Purse

A victim's purse was stolen after it was left unattended on April 6 on the Fine Arts Building. This case was reported at 12 PM and has been administratively closed.

### Stolen Painting

A valuable, painting was stolen from the Fine Arts Building. The incident was reported on March 29 at 10 PM. The offender in unknown and the case has been administratively closed.

### Aggravated Battery

On March 30 at 8 PM in the E-Building. One person was arrested for public intoxication, public urination and battery to a police officer. The court date is still pending.

### Deception- Forgery

An altered parking permit that was not authentic was used. This case was reported on March 14 at 8 PM and it has been administratively closed.

Independent won't go on vacation this summer.

Keep track online @  
[www.neiuintdependent.com](http://www.neiuintdependent.com)

Advertisement



# Emergency planning in final draft stage

*After Virginia Tech shootings, what is NEIU's plan?*

by Tom Robb  
News Editor

In the wake of the worst shooting spree in US history at Virginia Tech the *Independent* spoke with NEIU administration and Chicago Police officials about the state of emergency readiness at Northeastern.

The university has been actively working on an Emergency Management Plan [EMP] for the last year and a half. In Sept. 2005 Public Safety Director Jim Lyon told the *Independent* that the EMP had been "in draft form" since 2003.

Communication and manpower are the biggest obstacles in an emergency on campus according to both Lyon and Safety Coordinator Rick Matus, "One of the things we struggle with is communication," said Lyon.

The EMP is currently nearing completion and, according to VP of Finance and Administration Mark Wilcockson and Public Relations Director Erica Krehbiel who are both in a working group of administrators completing the EMP.

"A lot of this stuff is implemented already," said Wilcockson, who explained that many policies and procedures on safety and emergency response included in the EMP were

originated and implemented by individual departments across the university. Those procedures were then communicated and reviewed by the working group and included in the EMP.

On how the Campus Police would alert the campus to an emergency in which the situation was more complex than a simple evacuation, in which fire alarms can be used, Lyon said, "[we] use our officers [Northeastern Police] and some Facilities Management staff. This is what we struggle with, how do we communicate?"

Generally on any shift there are only two officers, one dispatcher and one sergeant on duty according to Lyon and other NEIU Police sources. On weekdays there is the addition of one lieutenant and the director, a second lieutenant works other shifts as well.

Lyon said that the university has looked at several options for improving communication in emergency situations. He said methods such as blast e-mails, phone messages and even a public address system [PA] linked across the whole university. The PA was rejected "that ended up being very expensive," said Lyon.

Lyon said that in a major

emergency there are two phases. Phase one is to deal with the immediate emergency response and that phase two is to deal with the aftermath. Lyon was also quick to point out that several of his officers have attended the police "Active Shooter" course, created after the school shootings at Columbine High School, one session just last month at the University of Illinois at Chicago and one last year with the Lincolnwood Police Department.

Rick Matus said that in crisis situations the Incident Command system would be put in to place where a central command center would operate and all information would flow to and from that command center.

Matus also said that outside agencies would be used when appropriate. "We're going to work with outside resources where we're not experts in the field, CFD [Chicago Fire Dept.] and Chicago Police are coming, we're going to work with them."

The Northeastern Police regularly work with the Chicago Police Dept. [CPD] in the 17<sup>th</sup> District, responding with them to incidents near campus. After the incident at Virginia Tech Lyon said that he met with other university police chiefs at the University of Illinois at Chicago

See Emergency, pg. 5

## New legislation to overhaul immigration laws

by Rolando Ithier III  
Staff Writer

Last month, a bipartisan backed piece of legislation calling for wide ranging reform to the United States immigration system, was introduced.

This legislation was spearheaded by U.S. Representative Luis Gutierrez (D-Ill.) and Jeff Flake (R-Ariz.), the Security Through Regularized Immigration and a Vibrant Economy Act, otherwise known as the STRIVE Act of 2007, is similar to previous legislation released by the Senate, but consists of added prerequisites.

According to the provisions, the secretary of the Department of Homeland Security must come before Congress to certify that certain "set conditions" have been met before the process of legalization for the undocumented can begin.

The conditions vary, and include everything from more inter-agency cooperation, to the acquirement and use of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles for patrolling borders.

A top the list is a precondition that requires the amount of border patrol personnel to be increased on both the Mexican and Canadian borders.

Another, which is designed to deter U.S. companies from employing undocumented workers, requires

employers to screen perspective employees through an electronic verification system.

If all conditions are met and subsequently the legislation is enacted, the STRIVE Act will provide millions of undocumented immigrants in the U.S., with the opportunity to obtain citizenship.

According to Title VI of the act, undocumented immigrants who were in the U.S. before June 1, 2006 and can provide documentation, proving they were employed, will be eligible for the Earned Legalization Program.

This program grants the undocumented—their spouses and children—special nonimmigrant status for up to six years.

After six years, they are eligible to apply for resident status and eventually full-blown citizenship.

In recent speeches at a community meeting in Jefferson Park, U.S. Rep. Rahm Emanuel (D-Ill.) and Luis Gutierrez (D-Ill) addressed the need for immigration reform. Both have pledged their commitment in seeing that the reform be approved this year.

The bill comes after years of debate on how to stem the flow of illegal immigrants, and deal with the undocumented already within U.S. borders.

# WE'VE DROPPED OUR

# FARES

Save 25% OFF  
your next online ticket purchase.

Greyhound is lowering fares on tickets in select cities, and taking 25% OFF the ticket price when you book online. So now it's even easier to get where you're going without dropping a ton of dough.

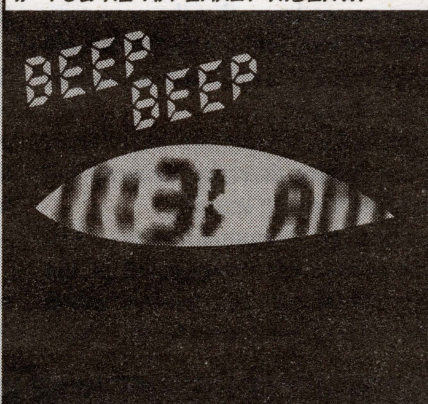
Book your discounted ticket today at  
[greyhound.com/newspaper](http://greyhound.com/newspaper).



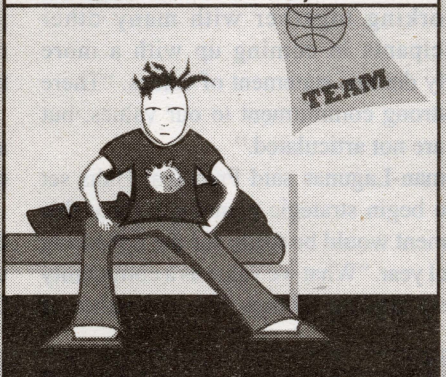
\* Limited time offer for select cities. Travel must be booked online at [greyhound.com/newspaper](http://greyhound.com/newspaper) before May 15, 2007. This discount may not be combined with any other discount or promotional offer. Additional restrictions may apply.

## the morning...

IF YOU'RE AN EARLY RISER...



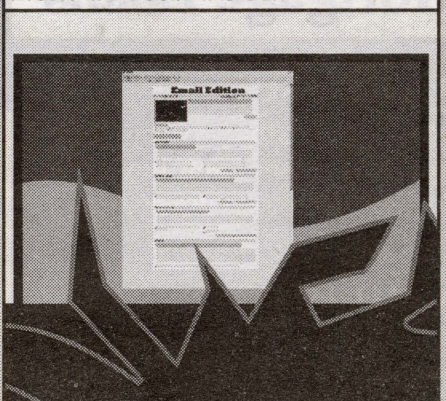
AND YOU NEED TO KNOW WHAT'S UP ON CAMPUS,



HAVE THE LATEST NEWS WAITING FOR YOU...



RIGHT IN YOUR INBOX.



[www.neiuindependent.com/register](http://www.neiuindependent.com/register)



# New student run gallery comes out of a closet

by Tom Robb  
News Editor

"The more space we have the more fervor there will be for [the creation of art] work." Said Lisa Krause, an art major whose senior project is the first to hang in a new small student gallery on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Fine Arts Building.

Art Department Chair Mark McKernin said that he converted a storage closet into the gallery after Art Department professors met with members of the Image Art Club [see *Independent* 10/10/06 *Striving for Space*].

"I've been asking for display space ever since I became chair," said McKernin, who has been chair for over five years. He said that he made the decision himself to convert a large storage closet into the student gallery using no Facilities Management funds. McKernin said that the gallery will need improvements in lighting.

McKernin said that the gallery would be kept up by the Art Department but would be managed by the Image Art Club who would schedule exhibits. He said that managing the gallery would be "a learning experience for students as well." McKernin said that he has asked the Image Art Club to make up a formal process to choose exhibitions and to name the gallery. McKernin said that

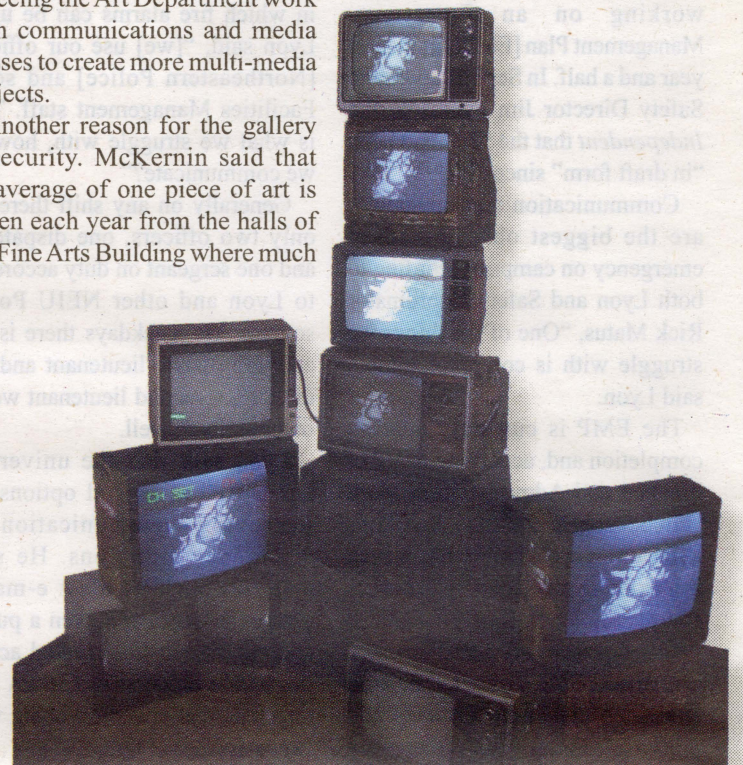
senior art projects would receive priority.

Krause said she worked with McKernin to use the space for her senior project, *The Remains of Our Immortality: A Naturalistic Observation of Western Culture Using Recycled Materials in Sculpture*. Krause is excited by the new space but said she would like to see more. "It worked great for my show, but I would like to see more exhibition space." Krause said she is also interested in seeing the Art Department work with communications and media classes to create more multi-media projects.

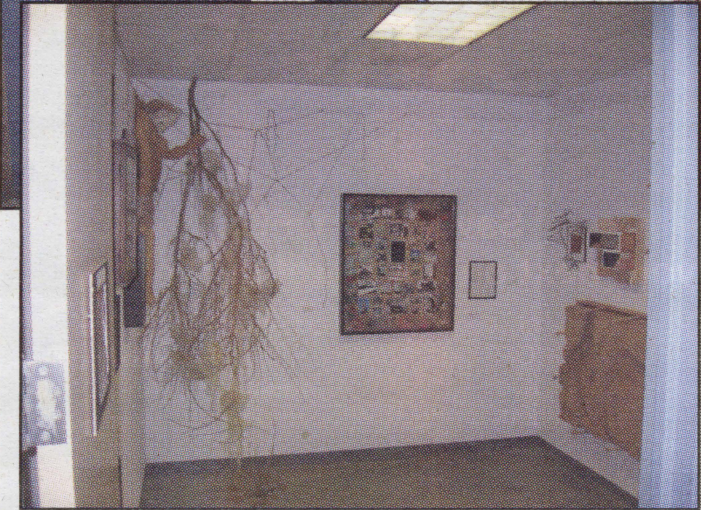
Another reason for the gallery is security. McKernin said that an average of one piece of art is stolen each year from the halls of the Fine Arts Building where much

of it is displayed. Two weeks ago a painting was stolen from the Fine Arts building [see police blotter pg. 2].

McKernin is frustrated by the lack of space in the Fine Arts building, "It's a burden on us again." He said that he converted one storage closet in to a faculty office space already and that now, with a second storage closet turned in to a gallery, more supplies will need to be stored in the basement of the Fine Arts building.



photos by Tom Robb



Art Student Lisa Krause and her senior project in the new student gallery in the FA Building on the 2nd floor

## Hahs starts project to clarify values

by Felicia Williams  
Staff Writer

Northeastern prides itself on being the most ethnically diverse university in the Midwest. They have a commitment to excellence, though it is not clearly defined.

Associate Provost Vicki Roman-Lagunas is working together with many other participants in coming up with a more clearly defined statement of values. "There is a strong commitment to our values, but they are not articulated."

Roman-Lagunas said President Hahs set out to begin strategic planning so that this statement would be ready for the upcoming school year. "What we value as a community is very similar. Things like the value of

diversity are on the top of everyone's list... The Statement of Values is supposed to reflect the community as a whole. We want it to reflect what we all believe in and show what we are striving for, and that is a foundation that reflects who we are."

The current draft begins with a statement that lets everyone know that the university is striving to 'turn out' graduates that are ready to become valuable and successful members of society.

The draft's key values are excellence, access, community, diversity, integrity and empowerment through learning.

According to Roman-Lagunas, 350 different groups are represented in the university community and representatives from the student body and faculty were

brought together to work on creating this list of values.

The groups were assigned the task of collectively making a list of values. After suggestions were taken, the groups were to pick three to five of the most important values and describe them. The groups were brought together to report to the main group.

After the first meeting of the group, a first draft was put together. It was put on the schools intranet (available only on campus at [www.neiu.edu](http://www.neiu.edu)) and made available for feedback. All were welcome from faculty to students to view the draft and make comments.

The first draft was then taken off the intranet and is being reviewed. Roman-Lagunas says that the group is looking for the

best possible compilation that would express all of the university's core values.

Open meetings were held at all of the NEIU locations, including El Centro and CCICS. Hahs was involved in each meeting and the goal was to gather feedback that would help put together a second draft and is currently available on the intranet for viewing and feedback.

After all meetings have come to an end the feedback will be incorporated into a polished final draft. That final draft will be brought before the SGA and The Faculty Senate Civil Service in order for them to affirm and approve it. "We have put forth a huge effort to gather feedback and we want members of our whole community here to participate," says Roman-Lagunas.

### Illinois & Florida Mortgage Loans

#### Purchase

Servicing both the savvy investor and the first time home buyer with the lowest interest rates on the market!

#### Refinance

Convert your adjustable rate loan while interest rates are still low!

#### Pay off

Free yourself from Tax Liens, IRS Liens, Collections, Credit Cards, and Student Loans forever!

Every Loan Option Available

State Income & Assets  
No Documentation  
Rehab Loans  
FHA Loans



Get Smart & Call

Suzette Salmon

630.964.9091 office

630.433.8791 direct

Do you have **Type 2 Diabetes**  
that is **not being treated** currently with medication?

If so, you may qualify for participation in a  
research study for an investigational drug for Type 2 Diabetes.

If you:

- Are 18-80 years of age
- Have Type 2 Diabetes or are newly diagnosed
- Are using diet and exercise to treat your diabetes
- Are NOT taking any medication to control your diabetes

...you may be eligible to participate in a research study.

Qualified participants will receive study-related procedures and study medication at no cost and compensation for time and travel.

To see if you qualify, please call  
(866) 460-0999

CLINTELL  
ADVANCING MEDICINE TODAY



# A timeline of terror

This timeline is courtesy of the Collegiate Times [CT] of Virginia Tech who provided it to the Independent. These excerpts were originally published on Monday, April 16th on CT's website.

**7:15 a.m.** 911 call received, reporting shots in West Ambler-Johnson Hall

**9:05 a.m.** Gunman seen in Norris Hall

**9:15 a.m.** Shots fired in Norris Hall

**9:26 a.m.** First university wide e-mail reporting West A.J. shooting

**10:00 a.m.** A gunman is confirmed loose on campus.

**10:04 a.m.** The university is encouraging everyone to stay indoors and away from windows. West Ambler Johnston and Squires are currently on confirmed lock down.

**10:20 a.m.** All classes are canceled.

**10:32 a.m.** At this time, one death and one injury have been confirmed. More information will be made available as it breaks.

**10:36 a.m.** Due to serious wind helicopters cannot be used to transfer the injured. According to the police scanner, ambulances are being used to transport the victims to Montgomery Regional Hospital.

**11:36 a.m.** At this time, University Relations is reporting one individual in custody and is searching for a second shooter. The Collegiate Times will publish information as it is made available.

**11:50 a.m.** The Associated Press has reported at least one death and seven injuries stemming from two shooting incidents on the Virginia Tech campus. Police have taken one person into custody and continue to search for another as part of routine procedure.

**11:57 a.m.** Police escorted three people out of Norris Hall. The three were handcuffed, separated, questioned, unhandcuffed and then canine teams were sent into Norris Hall said junior computer engineer Nick Saunders who watched the events unfold from the second floor of Randolph Hall.

**12:23 p.m.** Virginia Tech police have confirmed 22 fatalities resulting from the campus shootings today. The gunman has also been confirmed dead.

**1:29 p.m.** The university is requesting that students limit movement while police continue their investigation. Dining halls have been cleared to resume operations.

**2:13 p.m.** As of now, 32 people are confirmed dead. One person from West Ambler Johnston Hall and at least 20 people from Norris Hall have been killed. The shooter as well has been killed, but it is uncertain as to whether it is a student or not.

**4:24 p.m.** President Bush addressed the nation at 4:15 p.m. He spoke out against the violence that struck Virginia Tech earlier this morning. Bush said that he would be "praying for the victims and their families and all members of the university community." Bush also offered any necessary support to Tech and local law enforcement and said, "schools should be places of sanctuary and safety."

**4:44 p.m.** University Relations has confirmed 31 deaths at Norris Hall, in addition to two deaths at West Ambler Johnson. The identity of the shooter is currently unknown as no identification was present with the suspect.

**4:54 p.m.** Virginia Tech Police explains shooter's death, Police have confirmed that the shooter took his own life.

**4:59 p.m.** According to Virginia Tech police chief Wendell Flinchum, preliminary reports have stated that the doors of Norris Hall were chained. The shooter killed himself within Norris Hall and bodies were found throughout the building. No additional persons are in custody.

Contributing to this report were, Collegiate Times News Editor Saira Haider, Head Copy Editor David Harries, Online Director Christopher Ritter, Managing Editor Joe Kendall and News Staffer Kevin Anderson.

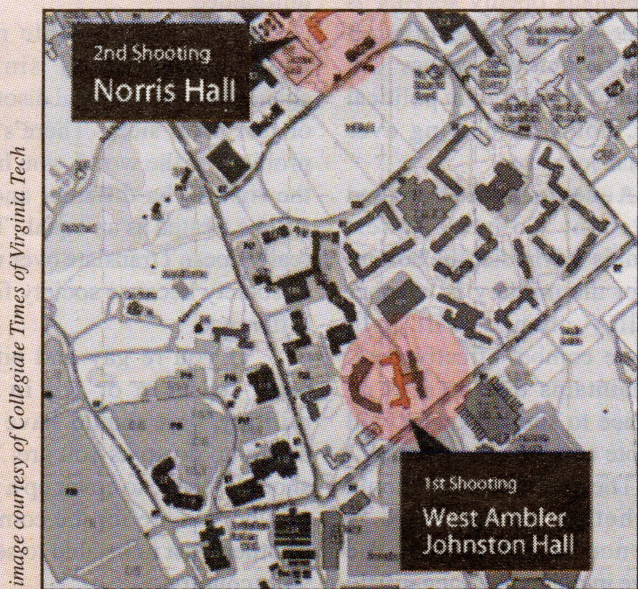


image courtesy of Collegiate Times of Virginia Tech

## Inside the Virginia Tech tragedy



Los Angeles Times photo by Francine Orr

Nicholas Young, 22, prays before a memorial on the Virginia Tech campus in Blacksburg, Va.

### VT from pg. 1

One student reaction at Virginia Tech was strong and at least one was hopeful as written in a Virginia Tech blog from [www.blackburgbeacon.com](http://www.blackburgbeacon.com) titled *That's Not My School* By wmhokie1979 posted on Mon Apr 16, at 8:00 p.m.

"I sit in shock, and feel waves of sadness as I listen to the news  
Of the tragedy that came today  
To my school I fight the tears  
and feel for the parents, friends and lovers

Of those lost today  
At my school I get angry at the  
news hounds trying to place blame  
and make sense  
Out of the madness that happened

At my school  
And I want to scream out "That's  
not my school!  
That's not the place of absolute  
beauty in a fall day  
Of Hokiystone buildings,  
mountain settings, students and of  
course football, basketball and all  
the social events

That we remember so well  
"I will remember the loss, the hurt  
and pain, forever I will hope for a  
memorial, different but hauntingly  
beautiful  
Like the War Memorial  
So we can remember those lost  
and wounded both physically and  
mentally

I will not forget to cherish the life  
we have to live  
To hold my children dear in this  
world of no safe place  
But I will not let this un-  
comprehensible disaster ruin what I  
hold on to

I will not forget to cherish the life  
we have to live  
To hold my children dear in this  
world of no safe place  
But I will not let this un-  
comprehensible disaster ruin what I  
hold on to

I will not forget to cherish the life  
we have to live  
To hold my children dear in this  
world of no safe place  
But I will not let this un-  
comprehensible disaster ruin what I  
hold on to

I will not forget to cherish the life  
we have to live  
To hold my children dear in this  
world of no safe place  
But I will not let this un-  
comprehensible disaster ruin what I  
hold on to

### Emergency from pg. 3

and that he also met with CPD Chief Phil Cline about the tragedy.

CPD Capt. Thomas Libert of the 17<sup>th</sup> Dist. said that orders were given to increase presence at NEIU, he said that he was not sure if that came from his commander or from higher ups in CPD.

CPD 17<sup>th</sup> Dist. officers held roll calls in parking lots of NEIU for several days after the incident. "We took it upon ourselves because people may be a little fearful. We may show ourselves and reassure students that we are here and aware of their possible fears," said Libert.

CPD Sergeant Sara Segrin, also an English major at NEIU, said that she knows many off duty police who attend Northeastern. Many attend because a four year degree is needed to advance beyond sergeant in CPD. Segrin said that they are kind of an extra "undercover

"THAT'S NOT MY SCHOOL!"

My school is a place of hope,

acceptance, sharing and learning

My school is a place of honor,

dignity, fairness and reward for

hard work

My school is a place where

'doing it right' is more important

that 'win at all costs'

My school is a place where we

will remember our past

And have high hopes for

tomorrow

My school is a place to see the

future in the faces and people that

walk the campus

My school is Virginia Tech

And I am proud to say 'THAT'S

MY SCHOOL!"

"The school is doing grief counseling in the student center and there is going to be a vigil," said Steele, she also said that President Bush visited the campus. Students quoted in CT said they felt

comforted by the increased security accompanying Bush's visit.

At NEIU President Hahs issued a statement, which said in part, "We would like to extend our deepest sympathy to the university community at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University and to the families and friends of the victims.

This tragic event reminds all of us -- faculty, staff, students, and alumni -- of the importance of community, safety, and concern for each other.

"Our University is committed to maintaining a safe campus for our community. By its very nature, a university is an open community. We value this freedom but, at the same time, as a community we must be vigilant and protective of our safety."

Student Government Association Speaker and VP Elect Kimberly Murphy said that she is planning a vigil honoring Virginia Tech to be held in the courtyard off Village Square on Thursday April 26.



Students running to get away from the shooter.

photo courtesy of Collegiate Times of Virginia Tech

police force" that would help respond to any catastrophic emergency. She said that off duty CPD officers carry their service weapon with them at all times and, "they are never really off duty."

Liebert said that, though there have been copycat incidents in other states, there have not been any in Chicago.

Wilcockson said that there were two previous attempts to complete the EMP, one focused on procedures and one on interdepartmental coordination, "This is both."

Wilcockson also said that the delay was exacerbated by the fact that there have been three Public Safety Chiefs since 2003 (one of whom, Lt. Jack Baker, was only an acting chief).

Matus said the EMP would continue to develop once it is adopted and training begins. Matus said, "We need to start planning for likely scenarios, this [general emergency planning] is such a big picture thing you have to narrow down and prioritize."



# Commentary

## Editorial Board

Patrick O'Brien *Editor-in-Chief*  
Nick Gaudio *Associate Editor*  
Amy Scoma *Business Manager*  
Duncan Macnab *Production Manager*  
Tom Robb *News Editor*  
Sophia Lopez *Opinions Editor*

Articles within "Commentary" do not represent the opinion of the *Independent* unless expressed within the "Editorial." Articles, cartoons, letters to the editor, staff and guest columns represent the opinion of the writer and not that of the organization.

## Editorial

# Hahs doesn't get the First Amendment

There is an age-old question, "If a tree falls in the forest, and no one hears it, did it make a sound?" The more important question here is if a protester yells at state and no one is around to hear it, did it matter?

In a recent issue of *Insights*, the university's newsletter, University President Sharon K. Hahs wrote a column on free speech in light of the arrests at the CIA recruiting day last Feb. in the P.E. Building. Respectfully President Hahs, you don't get it.

"Congress shall make no law... abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances." First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

What is troubling is that VP of Student Affairs Dr. Melvin Terrell announced the formation of the Free Speech Taskforce in Dec, 2005. The taskforce is still not finished with its work and they have not met since they gave recommendations to the university's lawyer Jeff Brown last November.

Another meeting was scheduled for next week and according to taskforce members Alumnus Joe Hertel and Student Peter Michalczyk, the notices for the meeting were sent out in March, after the arrest at the CIA recruiting event. Curious.

Referring to "the courts," Hahs said in her article, "universities can establish rules regarding the time, manor and place of these protests, and that these rules do not per se threaten freedom of speech."

We will break this down and show why the "Free Speech Zone" concept seems unconstitutional.

Referring to the courts, the Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court John Roberts said, in his Oct. 2005 opinion upholding the Military's right to free speech on campuses, "nothing in the Solomon Amendment [a measure cutting off federal aid to universities if they did not allow the military on campus to recruit] restricts what they [schools-challenging the law in court] may say about the military policies." He continued, "The right to speak is often exercised most effectively by combining one's voice with the voices of others."

Translated this means, the military has a legal right, to speak and recruit that can not be taken away if the school wants federal money, but go a head and protest all you want.

Surely regulating the time place and manor where people can speak and peaceably assemble is abridging those rights. It is saying no, you cannot assemble here or there or at this time or even to pass out this flyer misses the point of a protest.

To protest in response to something sometimes is the point, to confront and ask for redress. There are also laws that state that when a teacher is teaching a class, that is not the time for a rally or demonstration.

The other issue raised in the first amendment is that one of the primary reasons the first amendment exists is to "petition the government for a redress of grievances."

If the "Free Speech Zone," is in Village Square, how effective is it to try to petition the government's representatives, the recruiters for the CIA, if they are in the P.E. Building a quarter mile away from the Free Speech Zone.

Hahs' concern that NEIU not have a reputation for disruptiveness among potential employers who might attend a job fair is admirable.

However, as we study the history of the civil rights movements, we find that the most significant changes happened where it was not convenient, we study those leaders as heroes now.

This is not then it is now, the war is in the Middle East and not Viet Nam, those fighting for civil rights are not necessarily African American but more likely gay.

The administration should ask themselves how they want to be seen twenty or forty years from now. As champions to be celebrated or as caving to the immediate expedient need.

# Battle of the traits: beauty versus brains

by Patricia Shaw  
Staff Writer

Go to school, learn something, obtain good grades and you will get a good job, right? If you are born beautiful and maintain that attractiveness, then you will succeed in life. Sounds simple, huh?

Who gets the most out of life: fame, fortune, and genuine relationships: those who are physically attractive or those who are less attractive yet wise? Dr. Nancy Etcoff, a brain researcher and cognitive psychologist and the author of *Survival of the Prettiest: The Science of Beauty* says, "Beauty is an asset in the struggle for survival and good looks are a great advantage in many areas of life."

There is broadcast of what defines physical beauty more often than the airing of intellectual ideas. Shows like America's Next Top Model, Extreme Makeover, and Beauty and the Geek are prime examples of the world's idolization of beauty.

Trinidad Fernandez, a 20-year-old sales associate at Victoria's Secret, says, "Beauty beats brains because in our media, beauty bombards us more regularly and is always seen as a positive."

Moreover, we are programmed to be attracted to beauty. The human species thrives off of physical attributes. Human beings tend to judge the quality of cars, clothes, relationships, and food solely on the way they look. If it titillates the eye, it is therefore good, correct?

Deirdre D. Johnston, author of the book,

The Art and Science of Persuasion, suggest that attractive people are socialized differently from less attractive people. Attractive people usually get increased attention and positive feedback. People tend to be drawn to attractiveness- some would say a person with good looks is rewarding to be around.

Others disagree. "A smart person who is well rounded has more avenues in life because people find them credible. Do you think if I was trapped on a submerging ship and I had to choose to follow the unattractive pilot versus the sexy waitress I would place beauty over brains?" Said David Normand, a 64-year-old musician who lives on the Southside.

How often do people speak of the likeness of the opposite sex by saying "Wow, her intelligence just turns me on," "His mind looks so sexy," "I

admire her knowledge," or "He has the best brains I have ever seen." These sayings are rarely uttered because the human being is of the flesh, which implies that we have carnal minds.

"Try getting out of a parking ticket. [If] your face looks like Freddy Krueger, it will not happen", said Jody Weely, a 21-year-old entrepreneur of the South Shore community.

We live in a world where image is everything. Our culture is highly saturated with media images and verbal rhetoric concerning beauty and less talk about what makes the brain tick. The message of our culture is simple, and to many people, image reigns over all else. You be the judge- good looks or high I.Q.

**"Try getting out of a parking ticket. [If] your face looks like Freddy Krueger, it will not happen," said Jody Weely, a 21-year-old entrepreneur of the South Shore community.**

# Don't ask, we don't mind

by Jonathan Gronli  
Production Editor

Recently, the military started rethinking its "Don't ask, don't tell" policy regarding homosexuals in the military. Is this a step in the right direction? Yes.

The "Don't ask, don't tell" policy was implemented to minimize the amount of discrimination towards homosexuals in a formerly completely homophobic organization. It pretty much implies that you won't be pushed away from military service if you are willing to serve your country by joining the military. The condition for this though, is for you to not openly "come out."

Rethinking the policy is worth paying attention to because it could end up being a big step in minimizing the discrimination against homosexuals. This is to say people are finally getting things done in terms of spreading equality. This could be a great step forward.

Another reason for the military ban was that

**The "Don't ask, don't tell" policy was implemented to minimize the amount of discrimination towards homosexuals in a formerly completely homophobic organization. It pretty much implies that you won't be pushed away from military service if you are willing to serve your country by joining the military. The condition for this though, is for you to not openly "come out."**

homosexuality, at one time, was thought of as an issue of national security. The policy was signed into law in 1993 by President Clinton, which argued that gays and lesbians openly serving is an issue of national security. It isn't. Orientation, unless you happen to be talking in political terms, holds no bearing over national security.

A question posed by retired Lieutenant Colonel Robert Maginnis is whether the bottom line for the military is whether a policy change will help promote combat effectiveness. He maintains that he sees no evidence to support that it will promote combat effectiveness.

The real question should be whether or not there is evidence to prove that the change in policy will negatively

affect unit effectiveness. There really isn't any that is noticeable. Then again, this is coming from a civilian perspective. This could be completely wrong and unfounded.

Sure, some people may find homosexuality sinful, against nature, a mental disorder or just plain sick. There's the problem of the world, you have the right to be different and to still be treated as an equal. This really doesn't translate over well in society because society fears difference.

If you're gay and either want to serve or are in the military, you should have the ability to do so as you are. You shouldn't have to cover up a part of who you are for the comfort of others just to be able to serve your country.



# Controversy, race issues and firings, oh my!

by Jonathan Gronli  
Production Editor

Recently Don Imus was fired from his job for a racially insensitive comment. The comment that got him fired was calling the Rutgers women's basketball a group of "nappy-headed hos."

OK, there is validity to the public outcry at that resulted from this comment one would have to take into account his job and what exactly it is. He is a shock jock. His job is to incite controversy. He was paid to piss people off with his opinions or his sarcasm and jokes.

As for the comment that got him fired he has acknowledged it was a stupid thing to do. In some interviews he also labeled it a joke that just wasn't meant to go that far. This doesn't excuse the fact that it did go that far. This is just calling it as he has openly called it.

One could always ask the reason why the topic was brought up on his show. Since it was in relation to a predominantly black team against a predominantly white team it could've been a ploy to point out that the race issues fought against through the civil rights movement haven't left us. This is just one conclusion out of many possible ones.

While this is a pretty big thing to happen it isn't the first time that it has happened. CBS news brought up two different cases that are similar to the

one they were covering April 12, 2007. "Bob Grant, a popular New York radio host, was put off the air for calling the African-American mayor at the time a "washroom attendant." And Jimmy "The Greek" Snyder lost his CBS job on NFL football pre-game telecasts by saying black athletes were superior to white athletes."

It was right that he was punished. However firing him was excessive. Fines, sure. Suspension, that's fine. He ended up bringing up a sensitive issue in a rough manner but the issue shouldn't be swept under the rug under the guise of a crusade for public decency. Race issues, much like any other issue, NEED to be addressed. How they are brought up is important since it is a very touchy area.

Bringing up an issue that was once and still is important to American society is a good thing. It allows people to talk things out. Part of improving society is confronting its demons, which for America one was and still is racism, though it mostly is not quite as blatant as in the Civil Rights Movement.

There will be those who say what people want them to say and then those who just drive people crazy. Their views might be sarcastic, satirical and in the way they are brought up occasionally completely wrong. Sometimes though the intention outweighs the importance of what was said. If it's meant to bring up an issue of society to the front for inquiry and debate, getting pissed off just seems like it would be petty in the face of the larger issue.

## Korean shame after VT massacre

by T.C Chung  
Business Assistant

Asians are the model minority because we are invisible. We pride ourselves on not sticking out, "it's the nail that sticks out that gets hammered."

April 16<sup>th</sup> has changed everything for me and for Koreans everywhere. Before that day silence was a virtue, or at worst something written off as shyness. Now it is a cause for suspicion and alarm.

The quiet Korean kid in your class is no longer some math geek who's the son of a dry cleaner. He is a time bomb waiting to go off. Our anonymity, our benign invisibility is gone and

we are vulnerable without it.

Sean Kim, a friend, and Virginia Tech [VT] alum told me today that seeing those buildings would never be the same for him. The good memories he associated with them will forever be colored with a darker tone. Though many Koreans will never say it out loud, we all feel a collective shame that is as visceral as Sean's.

The rampage at VT is not the isolated act of a disturbed young man who happens to be Korean but a failure of our core values of family and education. Koreans do not see an individual; they see a person as a direct reflection of his parents. An incident like this disturbs us because of the image he casts on us all.

By all accounts, his upbringing in this country wasn't unusual, the son of hard working parents who sacrificed much so that their children could succeed. His act of violence is an indictment that our values can fail and by extension, that we are failures.

The suspicious glances and fearful hesitance is something that we must all bear with a sense of communal guilt and is something we must live through. In time, we will go back to being the model minority. The quiet people who press pants and manicure hands but the sense of failure this brings to the surface will be something that will not fade so quickly.

## Mail Bag

## A response to Sophia

Dear Editor,

Sophia Lopez's recent column "Just an Incident" stands in a long tradition of creating caricatures of socialists as stridently and moralistically berating any and everyone who disagrees with our political outlook on the world.

The point of the caricature is clear--that Socialists are somehow different from the rest the student body. That we are alien and oblivious to the pressures of "regular" people who are just looking to get a job or trying to finish school.

Moreover, the point is to portray socialists as elitist. Of course, we could never understand why anyone would ever join the military. In fact, the Socialist Club at NEIU, is a multiracial organization made up of Blacks, Latinos, whites, and Arabs. We are male and female. We are gay and straight. All of us work jobs to pay for our education. Moreover, all of us have friends and family who are members of the military--some of whom are currently serving in Iraq. Some of our members are members of the military.

The notion that the Socialist Club scoffs, mocks or begrudges people who are in the military is simply untrue.

Do we engage in the counter-recruitment of students to the military? Absolutely. Why? We counter-recruit because military recruiters lie to students to convince them to sign up. This is not a Socialist Club conspiracy--anyone who bothers

to read the front page of the LA Times or New York Times will have read multiple stories about the unscrupulous methods recruiters use to meet their quotas for recruits.

We see our role as making sure students have as much information about the military as possible before making the decision to join. The idea that the Socialist Club is trying to "dictate" career decisions of other students is a silly and sophomoric argument.

Of course, we don't have the authority or the aspiration to do such a thing.

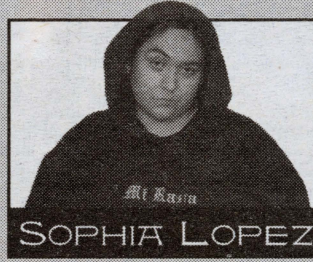
However and unfortunately, being in the military is not like any other "job". The United States military is the tool the U.S. government uses to enforce its will on the rest of the globe, whether it be in Latin America or the streets of Baghdad.

Of course, people are free to disagree with us--and they often do. But often in this apolitical country having a political opinion and having the audacity to voice it gets you branded as abrasive--again playing into the stereotype that we are unable to have articulate debates and discussions.

Unfortunately, Sophia Lopez could have learned a lot of these things about our group--including what we actually think about the military, military members, and counter recruitment on campus--if she'd bothered to contact us instead of attack us from the safety of a school newspaper.

Keeanga-Yamahatta Taylor  
President, Socialist Club

## VOICE OF THE CAMPUS



## State- ments

University president Sharon Hahs has initiated a collaborative process which calls for the development of a "Statement of Values." Along with NEIU's "Statement of Mission," it is meant to serve as the foundation for all future planning efforts. Change in the top administrative position now offers the possibility of improving the overall tone and sense of community on campus.

Introducing herself and meeting face to face with students early on would be a great start. We all know how important access to and visibility of the university president is. It would be nice to see President Hahs attend Latino and Latin American Studies events; not to mention GLBT, Black Heritage Club, and Hillel, Asian, Women's Studies, and many others.

Her simple presence would go a long way to demonstrate her commitment and support for the wide spectrum of groups and organizations that make up the entire NEIU community. Also critical is a faculty which is more reflective of our diverse student body. The importance of Latino, African American, and minority teachers in the classroom is beneficial for all students.

Improvements in graduation rates, access to childcare, and open sections of classes are crucial for our academic and personal development. Transparency in the administration, the Board of Trustees, and Student Government Association is of great importance as well. This is about fostering unity on campus and also recognizing and valuing our differences as well.

Now, there are a select few within the Socialist Club that are failing to extend any "tolerance" to those with whom they share differences with. As reported in the April 12 edition of the Independent, a group of protesters, including the two arrested in late February, confronted president Hahs about issues of "free speech." However, it is clear that those who "marched" into her office weren't really interested in speaking with president Hahs since she was "unable to finish her reply as the crowd got very loud."

When SGA presidential candidates were debating in the cafeteria, members of the Students Against the War, including the same two arrested in the late February incident, heckled some of the candidates as they tried to address the controversies. Do they really think trying to silence others is a good way to engage the NEIU community?

This column is not the place to get into long-winded discussions of U.S. foreign policy or the plight of misunderstood socialists worldwide. Needless to say, clear-headed rational discourse is not a defining trait for some within the Socialist Club.

Speaking of which, Keeanga Taylor is the same person quick to charge that SGA was being taken over by "right-wing" bigots when the current administration was sworn in. It is she who makes "caricatures" of those whose political views differ from hers. Nonetheless, she is free to pursue her socialist revolution in our blessed Village Square.

But seriously dear comrades, this has been a year of incredible changes full of possibilities. Building a stronger NEIU is a challenge many of us gladly face. I wish a glorious summer for you all.

## Letters to the Editor Policy

Letters to the Editor must be signed with an address and telephone number for verification. Submissions must not exceed 250 words. Letters are subject to editing for space and style at editor's discretion. The editor reserves the right to omit any work submitted. Published on first-come first-served basis.

Send letters to: Independent, E-049, 5500 N. St. Louis Ave., Chicago, IL. 60625 or neuu\_independent@yahoo.com



## A night of hip-hop

by Sophia López  
Opinions Editor

The NEIU Hip Hop Organization's "March Madness" event held Friday, March 30, was a celebration of the group's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary. An enlivened crowd gathered in Alumni Hall to hear performances by Iomos Marad, Rita J. and Mr. Greenweez, FOOD (Decay & Selfish), Maintenance Crew, and Mass Hysteria. The show featured live spinning by DJ Monky & the Hip Hop Project as well as Live Art by Drew/Kepha.

A special performance by well-known B-Boy group, The Brickheadz, was a highlight of the evening. Members Wakka, Skywalker, Sean Rokka, Popcorn, C.J., and Hexstar did impressive breaking that left the crowd speechless. Surely human bodies were not meant to move in so many different directions.

Although the show as a whole was a great success, it noticeably lacked the performance of Iomos Marad, one of the best rappers in Chicago. He did not go on as scheduled and advertised. Marad's no-show was a great disappointment for many; he was the main draw of the evening.

Jenni Johnson, president of NEIU's Hip Hop Organization, explains that Marad was also booked at another

show the same night and the club was under the assumption that he would be doing both shows. She adds that due to NEIU's policy, the show had to wrap up at 11:00pm, which would not have given him enough time to perform. "I am very proud of our show and hopefully next time we can extend the show to later hours," says Jenni Johnson.

Maintenance Crew (Ubiquity, Chantalism, Kash One and band), brought a lively energy to the stage. They have a new release titled "Simple Is The Way It's Spoken." Rita J & Mr. Greenweez followed and played off each other in a spirited performance of their own.

Unfortunately, we were then forced to endure a dreadful performance by Mass Hysteria (Mike Treese, Gee-Field, & DJ Prescyse). They muttered a not-so-subtle slam against reggaeton before the announcement was made that Iomos Marad would not be performing.

Iomos Marad is a member of Chicago's Family Tree and the All Natural Hip-Hop label. In 2003, he released his debut solo album titled "Deep Rooted," which the Chicago Sun-Times ranked number 4 in its Notes From the Underground national review in December of that year. He released another brilliant album, "Go Head" in November of last year.



Waka from The Brickheadz shows his skills.

"We dedicate ourselves to provide respect to a culture that has been here for generations and will continue to be here forever," says the Northeastern Hip Hop Organization's myspace site. The group,

which started in 1997, focuses on Hip Hop culture in the 5 elements: MC, B-Boy/Girl, Graf, DJ, Knowledge. They say the club exists to bring a positive connection between hip hop and society.

## CRYSTAL CLEAR VISIONS OF GREATNESS

by Jonathan Gronli  
Production editor

For those who have listened to Fleetwood Mac you have had at least some exposure to Stevie Nicks. The newest release by Nicks, *Crystal Visions*, the very best of Stevie Nicks, reintroduces the hits that put her on the map of music stardom.

Her first releases were with Fleetwood Mac, an influential group that has survived the test of time. With this powerhouse group she had released quite a few hits. The most notable ones, "Silver Springs" and "Landslide" are on this Album. It is a reminder of why Fleetwood Mac fans love those songs.

Solo Nicks is just as prominent, as while she was with Fleetwood Mac, or at least that is the fact for her diehard fans. Even though the solo pieces generally are not as well known as the Fleetwood Mac pieces there was always something there to pull in the ears of listeners. The words, the emotion, the voice, all these things pulled in listeners.

The songs are catchy but all comes with serious topics. From songs of love to addiction it covers the usual spectrum of topics covered

in most any style of music. The live tracks give a new feel to the old hits by reviving their beauty, sometimes with the Melbourne Symphony. It also brings in other influential people in the music industry like Tom Petty and Don Henley. It is a great mix of songs with great guest artists and a lot of meaning.

Does this warrant getting *Crystal Visions*? If you are a diehard fan, it is something you would not want to miss. Chances are if you are a diehard fan, you have already considered getting this, if you have not already.

If you are a regular fan but do not have everything in terms of the Nicks legacy to music, it certainly is something that would be found enjoyable and ideal. It gives a great idea of what were her most successful songs and it will just make you fall in love with them all over again.

If you happen to be looking to branch into a new style of music or just want to hear a new artist and you never listened to Nicks or Mac, get it. It is a great starting point. To spin off of an earlier statement, it gives a great idea of what her music is like. Even if you do not fall completely in love with her songs it is definitely at least worth the try.

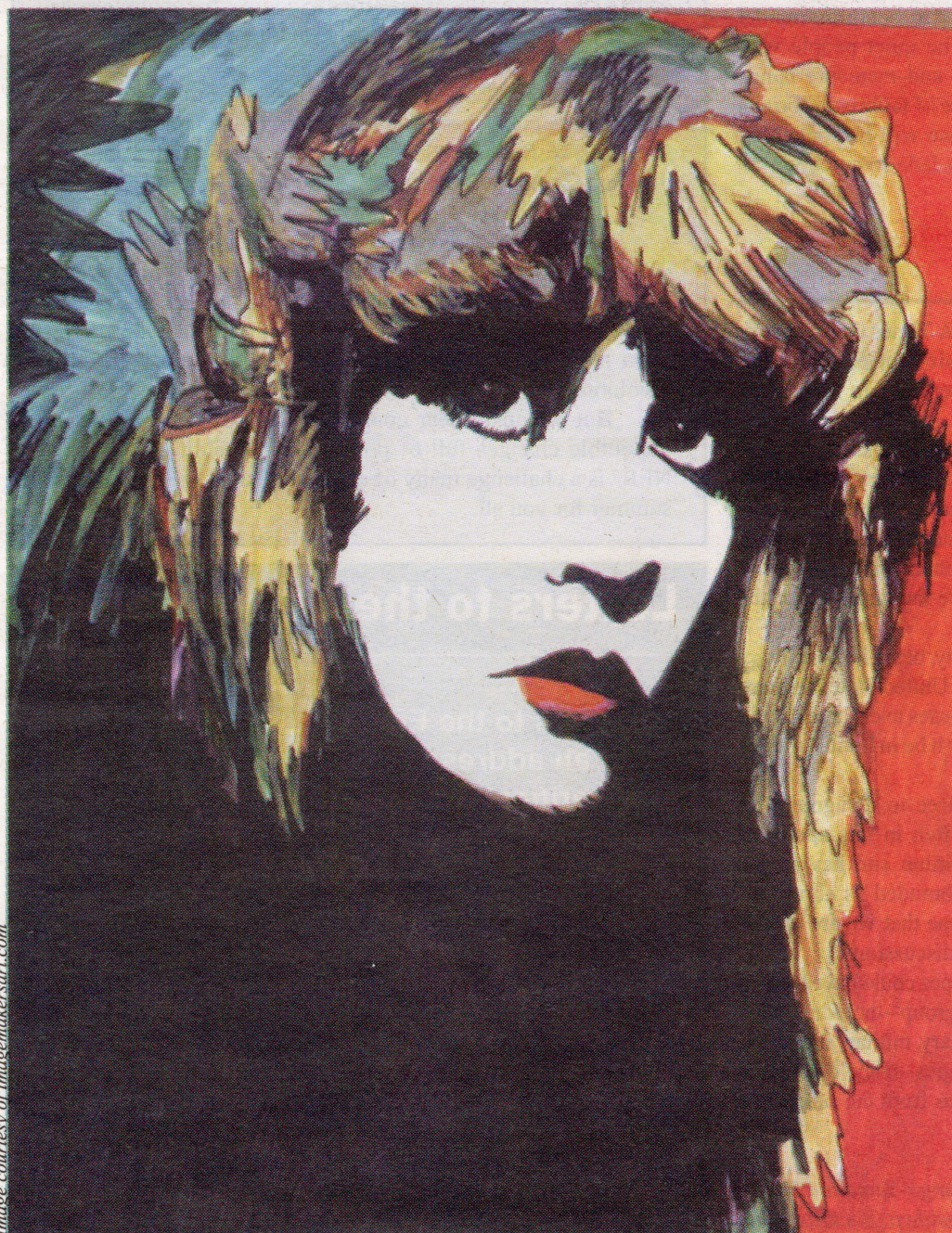


Image courtesy of imagemakerart.com



# Massacre: Sing to Your Children

by **Regina M. Torres**  
Staff Writer

Academy Award nominee and award winning playwright Jose Rivera works up a passionate, suspenseful, and crafty drama with his spicy play *Massacre (Sing to Your Children)*. While Rivera shines a much needed spotlight on Latin-Americans, this thought provoking play centered on the logistics of human interaction and consequence holds universal appeal for any human being that takes part as an active viewer.

Director, screenwriter, and playwright Rivera offers up a passionate and suspenseful drama that appeals to the humanistic side of murder. How does Rivera combine the cold act of murder with the introspective humanistic moments that are meshed together in *Massacre*? Not without it's balance and contrast between, good and bad, light and dark. There is a whole lot of justifying done on the part of the seven separate, yet banded together entities that are the colorful blend of Hispanic-American characters who set out to accomplish this very task.

Rivera subjects us to frenzied and awkward character interactions mixed up with doubtful self-reflections and glimpses of calm in the pre and aftermath of a justifiable attempted murder done out of sheer desperation.

In *Massacre (Sing to Your Children)*, the focus is on these seven distressed characters that reside as friends, relatives, lovers, and otherwise neighbors in the sleepy town of Granville, New Hampshire. All the centralized action on stage for this play happens in the interior living room and kitchen of a New England farmhouse residence. The staging was professional and aided in the swiftness needed to convey the intensity of events up to and including flashback scenes.

*Massacre* starts off with a bang. All seven characters rush the living room stained in blood and carrying various makeshift farmhouse weapons. There is Panama- the group's liberator/leader type, Vivy- the firecracker schoolteacher, Janis- the spontaneous songwriter, Lila- the intuitive psychic, Erik- the big quiet softy mechanic, Hector- the defunct restaurateur, and Eliseo- the wandering-soul bartender. As distinct individuals, all these characters share one thing in common- they have all had their lives disrupted and tormented by the town bully and sadistic tyrant Joe.

The audience is never given a face to go with

the name and history of Joe; only a boisterously haunting voice from behind closed doors announces his menacing presence. Once the general excitement that pervades the whole group begins to wear off, and thoughts of doubt, distrust, and regret begin to surface amongst the characters over the deed that was done, creepy intensity comes to a peak, as one member of the group, doubts whether Joe was actually successfully murdered in the first place!

Between the dynamics of intense acting, Joe's voice breaking-up the group's prior peaceful lull- with only a door seemingly separating the group from their suffering yet sickeningly-sweet tormentor, and the insecurities that

arise between the characters, one cannot help but become personally involved- on a philosophical level at least.

*Massacre (Sing to Your Children)* is a play that builds a skillful framework around the social dynamics and ethical questionings we all face as part of the human race. This is a play that is about a symbolic massacre and the skeletons that need release from our mental and spiritual death closets in order to move forward with our personal journeys in life, so that we can start new. Rivera's symbolic characters identify with the concept of what happens to us when we do not pursue our true path and settle instead for complacency within our modern era lives.



Image courtesy of goodmantheatre.com

## When Angels and Daemons Collide: "Fallen" a fast paced knockout debut

by **Amanda Dalal**  
Online Editor

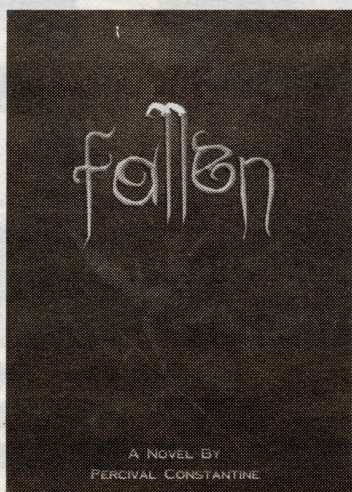
"Fallen" follows Lans Kells, a freelance writer trying to get by in the new world post World War III, who inadvertently gets caught in the middle of an epic fight between Angels and Daemons for the souls of mankind. The Force insinuated to be God has left the tattered Earth to its own devices, with the Angel Gabriel becoming humanity's sola protector. He has fought for mankind against the soul stealing Daemons, and as a result has been banished from Heaven.

As Lance struggles to understand and come to terms with the events he has become tangled in, he continues to learn more and more about the mysterious fantastical forces controlling the fate of man, eventually realizing that he and Gabriel have more in common than their desire to rid Earth of soul-snatchers.

"Fallen" is a bit graphic - not for the easily queasy reader - but Constantine is a wordsmith,

and this extraordinary premiere story is an easy but intense read. Constatine features information on his upcoming works on his website [percivalconstatine.omegacen.com](http://percivalconstatine.omegacen.com), and if what is to come is nearly as great as *Fallen*, it will not be long until this new author has a dedicated following.

Fascinating and original characters, witty dialogue and a compelling plot make "Fallen" a must read this summer. From start to finish, "Fallen" is captivating. The book is available now from [amazon.com](http://amazon.com) for \$14.



**Dr. Joy Poskozim**  
6314 N Cicero  
Chicago IL 60646

Ph: 773-736-7767  
Fax: 773-736-7768  
[joyfuldentalcare@yahoo.com](mailto:joyfuldentalcare@yahoo.com)

SAVINGS

1 hour  
**ZOOM!**  
in-house whitening \$299  
(a \$500 value)

All first time  
NEIU patients  
\$150 cleaning,  
exam and x-rays.

Monday: 8-6  
Tuesday: 12-8  
Thursday: 8-6  
Fri. & Sat: 8-3

**JOYFUL**

Dental Care  
[www.joyfuldentalcare.com](http://www.joyfuldentalcare.com)

Advertisement



# Comebacks?

## Smashing Pumpkins re-smashed

by Kaity Nicastrì  
Photo Editor

Smashing Pumpkins are returning to the mainstream scene with their first album since their disbanding in 2001. Expected release date is 7.7.07, and the title is *Zeitgeist*. Those who loved their sound will still be pleased to hear the same tone and voice; fans of the actual band members will be disappointed to know that James Iha and D'Arcy Wretzky have been replaced.

Smashing Pumpkins are native to Chicago, but they will not be returning to Chicago during their first tour. Some insiders and fans speculate that they may return in some way, doing impromptu shows in smaller venues. However, their tour dates range from Europe to Canada, and three American shows: in Washington D.C., New Jersey, and Baltimore.

According to the new band manager, Paul Geary, Corgan is remodeling the band to give the same sound it was known for; this is not for monetary purposes. Corgan has refused several larger offers in order to achieve his mission of bringing the same sound to a younger generation. He will only bring in new members who agree to help recreate the spirit and sound of the original foursome.

Only half of the band remains unchanged: Jimmy Chamberlain on drums, Billy Corgan as lead singer. According to several sources, including Q101 Alternative, Corgan and Chamberlain have recruited female bassist Ginger Reyes, formerly of Halo Friendlies, as well as Jeff Schroeder on guitar, formerly of The Lassie Foundation.

After the breakup in December 2000, Corgan tried other projects: he put together a

quartet called Zwan, and tried recording solo albums, as well as Glass and the Machines of God. None became largely acclaimed efforts. In 2004, Billy Corgan, the lead singer of the Smashing Pumpkins broke his silence about why the band dissolved, and expressed disappointment with Iha and Wretzky for walking away from an endeavor he described as, "essentially my entire life ... a dream I still believe in."

Iha stated "I have not talked to Billy Corgan in years." He does not intend to have a part in the reunion or the tour. According to Rolling Stone, Iha has his own record label with Adam Schelsininger of Fountains of Wayne. It is called "Scratchie Records", and Iha plans to record some of his own music under this label.

D'Arcy Elizabeth Wretzky left the band in 1999. Soon after she was arrested in Chicago for purchasing crack cocaine. She went through rehabilitation and now lives a private life. She has remained almost entirely out of the public eye since 2000.

The new album, *Zeitgeist* is in its final stages, and the band has started to release small samples and previews of the tracks. The track list is still under lock and key, Corgan did a solo performance of a few tracks in an intimate club show in Los Angeles in November 2006.

The Smashing Pumpkins are kicking off their tour in Paris on May 22, and continuing from there to Brussels. They will be headlining the Virgin Festival in Toronto, Ontario. They also look to headline at a festival in Baltimore, MD, but it is not confirmed yet. Tour dates and other updates can be found at:

[www.smashingpumpkins.com](http://www.smashingpumpkins.com).

## ...So it goes

by Dino Pollard  
Special Contributor

"Have you ever read any Vonnegut?" The question was posed to me about three years ago while I was at a friend's house. We were chatting in his living room when his father, who was flipping through a book, just asked me the question. I said no and he handed the book to me. It was an old paperback copy of *Slaughterhouse-Five* with a worn spine and a cover that was ready to fall off.

At first I was a bit hesitant. At that point, I hadn't been an avid reader—maybe a book or two every other month would catch my eye, but I never found an author who I could point to and call my favorite. Another reason I wasn't so sure was that *Slaughterhouse-Five*, according to the description, was about World War II and I am not a fan of historical fiction. But I decided to give it a chance.

After page one, I was hooked. And since then, I have read several of Vonnegut's books, each time finding myself

amazed at how he could make readers laugh hysterically at his writing while still making us think about the human condition, and how he could take outrageous pulp concepts like Tralfamadore and make them interesting.

The rest of the literary community would look down their nose at him—this writer of science fiction who uses quirkiness and humor instead of writing about how depressing it is to be a human being—how dare he! Vonnegut lived like the characters he wrote—an unappreciated artist like Kilgore Trout and a great humanitarian like Eliot Rosewater.

Kurt Vonnegut spoke to me in a way no writer ever had. His books, although outrageous and hysterical were very real to me, and each time I read a novel of his, I find myself amazed again and again. So on the morning of April 12, I found out that he had died the previous day. And immediately, I felt depressed and saddened. Not only because Vonnegut was my favorite writer, not only because my dream of eventually sitting down and

having a chat with him would now never materialize, but because the world had lost one of the greatest literary voices it had ever heard. And what is worse? No one else seemed to care. A former centerfold dies, and we hear about it for months. One of the greatest literary voices history has ever known is silenced, and no one says a word. That is a tragedy.

In Vonnegut's final book, *A Man Without A Country*, he talks about how he spoke at a funeral service for Isaac Asimov and in his speech, he said "Isaac is up in Heaven now," which had the crowd of humanists rolling in laughter. Of this, Vonnegut said, "If I should ever die, God forbid, I hope you will say 'Kurt is up in Heaven now.' That's my favorite joke." Kurt is up in Heaven now. And the world has lost his satirical voice just when we need it the most.

"Hello babies. Welcome to Earth. It's hot in the summer and cold in the winter. At the outside, babies, you've got about a hundred years here. There's only one rule that I know of, babies—'God damn it, you've got to be kind.'"

-God Bless You, Mr. Rosewater

FROM THE PRODUCERS OF  
"THE SIXTH SENSE"  
AND CO-WRITER OF  
"BATMAN BEGINS"

# THE INVISIBLE

HOW DO YOU SOLVE A MURDER  
WHEN THE VICTIM IS YOU?

HOLLYWOOD PICTURES AND SPYGLASS ENTERTAINMENT PRESENT A DUNWALD/BARNER PRODUCTION A MACARNELESTEN PRODUCTION A FILM BY DAVID S. COYER  
"THE INVISIBLE" JUSTIN CHATWIN MARGARITA LEVIEVA CHRIS MARQUETTE AND MARCIA GAY HARDEN WRITTEN BY MARCO BELTRAMI PRODUCED BY WILLIAM S. DEASLEY PETER PROSKE  
PRODUCED BY ROGER DUNWALD GARY BARBER JONATHAN GLENNAN NEAL EISENSTEIN ANNE MACARI  
BASED UPON THE NOVEL "MISTS WAITH AND THE CHURCHYARD" BY DAVID S. COYER  
SCREENPLAY BY ANNE DAVIS AND CHRISTINE ROMA DIRECTED BY DAVID S. COYER  
PG-13 PARENTS STRONGLY CAUTIONED  
SOME MATERIAL MAY BE INAPPROPRIATE FOR CHILDREN UNDER 13  
VIOLENCE, CRIMINALITY, DRUGS, LANGUAGE, AND SMOKING  
theinvisible-movie.com Text INVISIBLE to 55444 for wallpapers and ringtones

IN THEATRES APRIL 27

Advertisement

AN ACTION-PACKED NEW COMEDY  
FROM THE GUYS THAT CREATED  
SHAUN OF THE DEAD

PREMIERE  
"HILARIOUS!"  
DAVID KERRY

Rolling Stone  
"A BLAST!"  
A kissing, kick-ass cousin  
to 'Shaun of the Dead.'  
PETER TRAFER

MAXIM  
"ARMED, DANGEROUS  
AND HYSTERICAL!"  
Hilarious, great gags and  
genuinely thrilling action.  
RICK LEFFLEY

SEIN  
"★★★★★!"  
TROY PATTERSON

GUINITY  
"EXPLODES  
OFF THE SCREEN!"

VANITY FAIR  
"VERY FUNNY!"  
SUZIE HANBY

GO  
"GENIUS!"  
ALAN WATKINS

SIMON PEGG NICK FROST

# HOT FUZZ

ROGUE PICTURES PRESENTS AN ASSOCIATION WITH STUDIO CITY A WICKED FILM PRODUCTION A HOT FUZZ PRODUCTION "HOT FUZZ" SIMON PEGG NICK FROST JON BRADSHAW  
CASTING BY JON BRADSHAW COSTUME DESIGNER CHRIS WICKS MUSIC BY JESS HALL EDITOR RONALDO VASCONCELOS PRODUCTION DESIGNER JONATHAN WRIGHT  
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS: DAVID ARNOLD PAMELA HARRISON CHRIS WICKS PRODUCED BY SIMON PEGG WRITTEN BY SIMON PEGG AND NICK FROST DIRECTED BY EDGAR WRIGHT  
www.jointhefuzz.com

PREMIERE ENGAGEMENTS  
START FRIDAY, APRIL 20TH

OWN SMOKEY ACES ON DVD AND HD DVD APRIL 27. INCLUDES AN ALTERNATE ENDING!

Advertisement



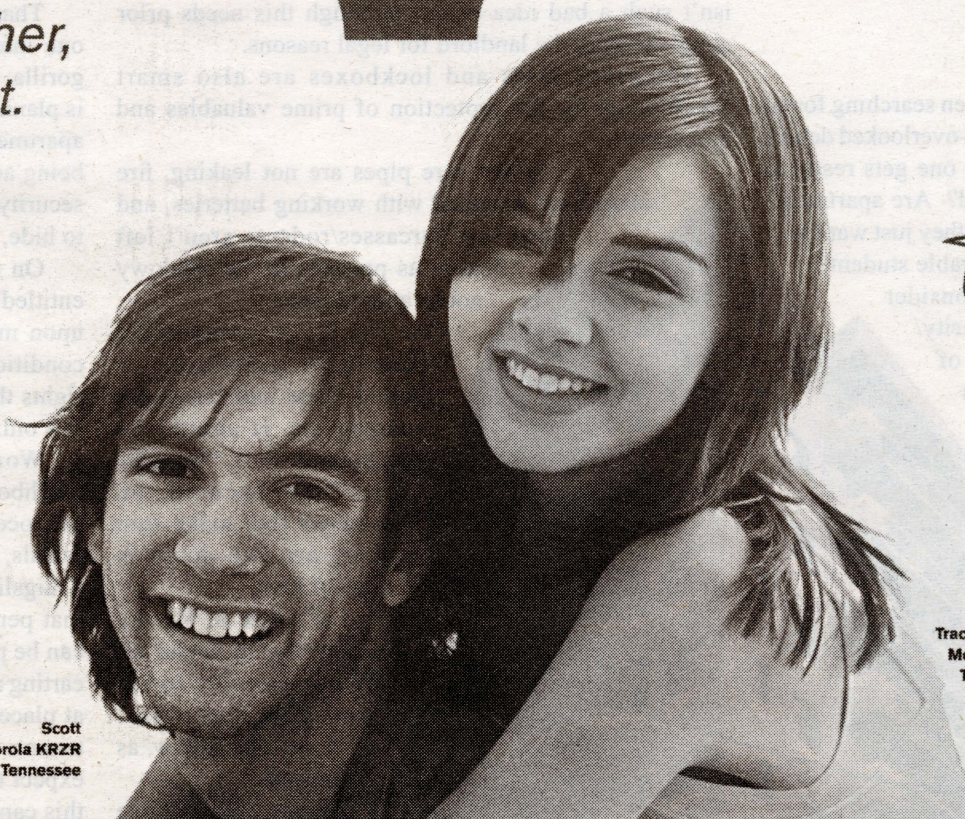


U.S. Cellular® gets us...  
so we can get together,  
even when we're not.

### National Family Plans (even friends can share)

- 1400 minutes for \$89.99 a month
- **UNLIMITED**  
Mobile-to-Mobile Minutes
- **UNLIMITED**  
Night & Weekend Minutes  
(Starting at 7:00 p.m.)
- **FREE**  
Incoming Text Messages

Scott  
Motorola KRZR  
Tennessee



Take our best network challenge,  
test our products, experience our  
customer service and make sure  
they are right for you.

**U.S. Cellular**  
We connect with you.

**Check out the  
ALL NEW getusc.com**

1-888-buy-uscc

Tracy  
Motorola Fire Red RAZR  
Tennessee

Advertisement



# EAGLES NEST

## IS THAT A LONGSWORD, OR ARE YOU HAPPY TO SEE ME?

by Michael Nguyen  
Production Editor

Consider the following pick-up lines: "So you want to get some coffee?" "I really want to get to know you, you want to do something tonight?" "After I repair my gear and clear up my bag space, you want to go farm trolls together in Blackrock Mountain?"

Surely you recognize the first two cliché come-ons, but it's likely you've never encountered the third. Speculatively, that would be a pickup line used by a person to engage another person of interest in "World of Warcraft," a massive multiplayer online role-playing game (MMORPG) played by millions of people all over the world.

As strange as it may seem, real-life romance can be found on MMORPGs. There are players who bring dates to the virtual world of Azeroth and develop real-life love while battling dragons and attaining powerful artifacts to equip their characters.

According to social norms, dating is usually expected to involve invitations extended by either gender to meet at a desirable location to seek out attractions and conversation. However, with so much of the world online, people are now finding romance through Internet entertainment. For some this means frequenting dating websites, but

for others, this means cavorting through virtual worlds with one another.

This increasingly popular trend of fantasy dating might be in part attributable to a rise in female gamers in a genre that once catered to a mainly male audience. There is an article (aptly titled "A World of Warcraft Wedding") on the Associated Content website that includes accounts of real couples finding each other and "marrying" in "World of Warcraft." The article maintains that finding love in MMORPGs is no different than finding dates in online dating sites. There is also a page in the World of Warcraft Europe site with an account of a couple marrying online in one of the European servers. There is even a column from the Jive Magazine website from a girl gamer promoting girlfriends to spend time and play games with their boyfriends to connect with them.

The image of gamers as anti-social nerds with the a lack of social skills is slowly evolving into a more positive presence, despite the news media continually demonizing computer games and their players.

Once the soul terrain of boys and men, there are now numerous Myspace pages of women proudly waving their "I am a gamer" banners. No matter what the mainstream opinion may be, love is here to stay in Azeroth and Paragon City, just as it is in the real world.

Gamers are human beings, and they do find human love.



## Don't be a welcome mat: Know your tenant rights

by Regina M. Torres  
Staff Writer

What should one be looking for when searching for an apartment to rent? What are some often-overlooked details that one should be informed of when one gets ready to scope out that cozy bachelor(ette) pad? Are apartment-finding services worth the effort, or do they just want to screw over a hard-working and vulnerable student?

When starting a rental search consider two important aspects: general security/safety, and money. Under the realm of security/safety, be sure to check doors and windows for their solidness and be weary of any prior signs that point to tampering. Locks and jams should fasten securely and tightly.

Once moved in, tenants may want to invest in a cheap security alarms that fasten on windows and doors that beep loudly upon motion. There are also motion sensitive web cameras out there that don't cost a fortune and work as another set of eyeballs when not home.

Changing the locks on doors

isn't such a bad idea either, although this needs prior approval from the landlord for legal reasons.

Fireproof safes and lockboxes are also smart investments for the protection of prime valuables and documents.

Make sure pipes are not leaking, fire alarms are installed with working batteries, and dead bug carcasses/rodents aren't left behind as presents in the shadowy nooks and crannies.

One last bit of advice under security is pertaining to ground floor and basement apartments. It should be expected that "burglar bars" be secured on windows (but make sure there are two doors in case of fire).

Let's face it. We are not trying to spend all of our concert ticket money on rent, right? So some tips follow, as promised.

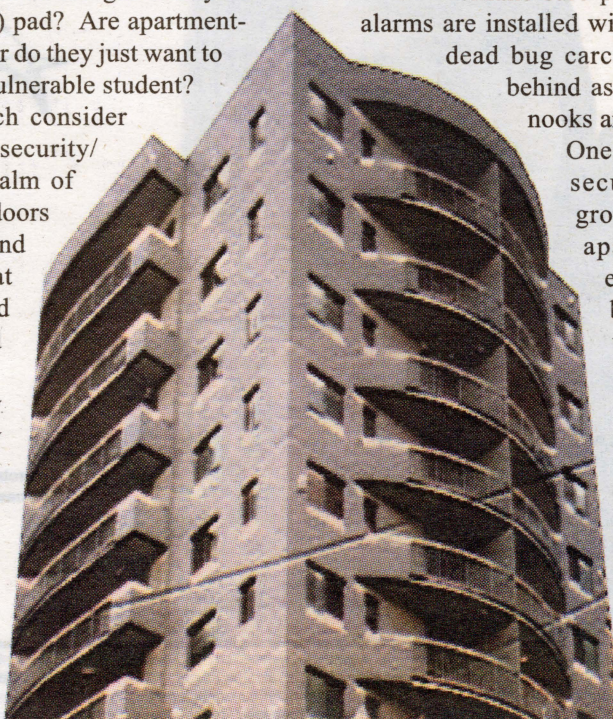
Forget about those two-month security deposits.

That's crazy. One month should suffice. Also, unless one intends on sharing an apartment with a possessed gorilla, there is no need for a so-called pet deposit. If one is planning to move into an already roommate-occupied apartment, then that person should insist on their name being added to the lease, especially if asked to supply a security deposit. If the intended roommate has nothing to hide, then this should not be a problem.

On that note, tenants should be aware that they are entitled to an earned interest on a paid security deposit upon moving from the rental and leaving it in decent condition. There is a guidebook out there on tenant's rights that every renter should own. There are copies of this online, or at your local representative's office.

Word of mouth, neighborhood strolls, and neighborhood postings on billboards in public places such as grocery stores always proven to be the best sources for rentals, although local newspapers, online sources such as Craigslist, and even schools can be beneficial in finding that perfect fit. The apartment rental services out there can be pleasant experiences, as they do the dirty work of carting apartment seekers around in an automobile to look at places. The flip side of that coin is that said potential tenants have to remember that these are sales people that expect to sell something at the end of the "rounds", and this can be annoying for a person that likes to take their sweet time to shop around.

Knowledge is power, so go get 'em!







by Amanda Dalal

## Accountability, Technology and You

Over the last year, we've discussed pivotal court cases (Net Neutrality, Julie Amero) the volatility of the Internet (the Google empire, online tiplines, wikipedia), the threat of Big Brother (Radio Frequency tracking, Digital Rights Management, thumbprinting for payment, MySpace and self-incrimination) and positive advances in technology (the One Laptop Per Child initiative, advances in auto tech). I hope these topics have provided you with a new insight to why technology is important beyond MySpace and e-mail.

Last week, I presented you with several reasons why it is crucial for every person to understand the basics of technology. No sooner had the issue gone to print than another (and perhaps most important) example surfaced. Incriminating e-mails that mysteriously disappeared (because they were deleted) between the President, Vice President Advisor Karl Rove, and other members of the Republican National Committee regarding the controversial firings of eight US attorneys.

By using the RNC e-mail server, the involved White House staffers were able to communicate without being recorded, deleting anything they wanted to without being noticed. The White House servers by comparison, save every e-mail eternally. Now correspondence has been called into question that has suddenly vanished. How convenient.

Can you really delete e-mails in this day and age? According to CNN, Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vermont says, "They've gone through too many servers. They can't say they've been lost. That's like saying, 'The dog ate my homework.'" Indeed, deleting e-mails out of your inbox hardly means they are gone. The recipient has a copy, and if they backed up their computer, it preserved a copy too. Computers often keep a cache (or hidden memory) of files and if any had been printed then there is a hard copy.

What repercussions (if any) will befall these officials remains unknown. But without an informed and involved public questioning the details, they may just get away with it. Although my stance throughout the year has been mixed as far as restrictions and laws in technology go, I do think it is important to have laws in place to keep something like this from happening again. We need accountability from our government and using tech errors (like disappearing e-mail) as a scapegoat is not acceptable.

If nothing else, thanks to the Patriot Act, they are reading our e-mails, so why can't we read theirs? Or at least make sure they aren't able to erase vital information, as incriminating

as it may be.

The more you understand about technology, the better. Although a part of that is learning "technobabble," in reality, our future rests upon the critical thinking about how and why we use the computers and electronics we use now and why. More importantly, how the little things happening today (in many cases flying below the radar, and as a result putting the public at a clear disadvantage) will change how we live tomorrow.

Don't be intimidated, be educated. We won't realize how much our ignorance costs until it's too late.

**APOCALYPSE**  
Literary Arts Coalition  
NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

**Monday May 21st, 2007**

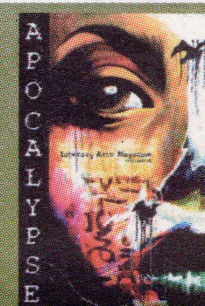
READING AND LECTURE SERIES

**Benjamin Percy**

His short story Refresh, Refresh received both the Pushcart and the Plimpton Prize and was included in the Best American Short Stories, 2006. Percy's anthology The Language of Elk was published in 2006, and another short story collection will be published later in 2007. [www.benjaminpercy.com](http://www.benjaminpercy.com)

Books will be available for purchase and signing!

7pm  
Golden Eagles Room  
5500 N. St. Louis Ave



Look out for the newest edition of  
**APOCALYPSE LITERARY ARTS MAGAZINE**  
VOLUME 14

"ART of APOCALYPSE" Publication Party

**Saturday June 2nd, 2007**

@ BLEND

1725 W. Division Street

for more information email [alac88@yahoo.com](mailto:alac88@yahoo.com)

or call 773-442-4582

[www.myspace.com/alac88](http://www.myspace.com/alac88)



## Student Union Programs

How do you currently use the Student Union?  
What are three ways the Student Union can improve?  
If you had money to invest in the Student Union, what would you do?

The Student Union is in need of students willing to participate in focus groups which center around the Student Union's services and facilities. The two focus groups are going to be held:

Monday, April 23, 2007, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

&

Thursday, April 26, 2007, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.  
Locations TBA

To RSVP for one of these sessions, please email [jamescjansen@gmail.com](mailto:jamescjansen@gmail.com).

## Live Comedy Show Open Mic

Featuring: The Lincoln Lodge comedians  
&  
Free Fudge Puppies from Herbkoe Fun Foods

**Friday, April 27, 2007**

**4:00 - 6:00 p.m.**

**Student Union Cafeteria**

If you are interested in participating, please sign-up in SU 207 or the Information Center (Village Square) before Thursday, April 26, 2007

Sponsored by the Student Union  
Visit us at: [www.myspace.com/neiustudent\\_union](http://www.myspace.com/neiustudent_union)

Events subject to change.

For more information about an event, please contact the Student Union at 773.442.6099 ([www.neiu.edu/~sudept/](http://www.neiu.edu/~sudept/)) or the Information Center at 773.442.4290 or [info-center@neiu.edu](mailto:info-center@neiu.edu)

Administrative Office: [student-union@neiu.edu](mailto:student-union@neiu.edu)



# How to hit delete on criminal records

by Kaity Nicastrì  
Photo Editor

Tamara Holder is an Illinois attorney and founder of the Law Firm of Tamara N. Holder, LLC, a criminal defense firm, which also provides full services for expungement. Her talks with students are geared toward broadening their horizons for new beginnings.

Holder recently held one of those talks at the Carruthers Center for Inner City [CCICS] Studies on April 10, 2004.

She addressed a class of students who have been exposed to crime and are looking for a fresh start on life. "Young people make mistakes all the time," Holder says, "and unfortunately some of those mistakes cost them more than others. But it shouldn't cost them their future." Holder focuses most of her legal attention in criminal practice upon seeking pardons and expunging criminal records.

Although expungement is not free, it is a valuable tool for former criminals to begin life with a clean slate. Not all cases are expugnable

or sealable, but Holder's firm helps clients determine this so that they can take applicable steps toward bettering their future.

To clarify: a record includes *all* arrests, whether the defendant was found guilty or not guilty. When expunging a record, the arresting agency i.e. Chicago or Illinois Police, will physically destroy a record, as if it never existed.

The Clerk's Office will seal your record and remove it from the electronic index. Sealing a record involves the same process, with the exception that a judge can issue an order for the public to view the record. However, while your record is not available to the public without a judge order, it can still be seen by law enforcement agencies.

After a record has been expunged or sealed, it is no longer mandatory for the citizen to inform employers of their record. In order to achieve this point, persons must be proactive in finding solutions and methods for expunging records according to Holder.

She has recently begun work with Reverend Jesse Jackson, Sr.

and the Rainbow Push Coalition. She holds an expungement and pardon meeting open to the public every Monday at 6pm at the Rainbow's headquarters, located at 50<sup>th</sup> and Drexel in Chicago.

Holder's efforts to assist ex-offenders are gaining national attention, and she holds a conviction that it should be addressed. Holder states, "Many people are losing or unable to get jobs because of something they did years ago. We must change the laws so ex-offenders get a second chance at life."

Holder's credentials include a degree from The John Marshall Law School in Chicago; interning with Miramax Films in Los Angeles; being a member of The Trial Advocacy Team and the Negotiation Team; early graduation, and work with a criminal defense firm. She has worked throughout the state of Illinois, although her focus is on the Chicagoland area at present.

For more information about expungements, please visit: [www.xpunged.com](http://www.xpunged.com) or call 1-877-XPUNGED.

Price and participation may vary.  
© 2007 McDonald's

## Spring Broke?



Yep, you're a Dollar Menuaire.



Advertisements

www.fordcollegehq.com

Official Site for the Ford College Program

**I AM** *define yourself.*

student bonus cash  
EXCLUSIVE OFFER  
**\$500**

Additional savings just for college and trade school students, recent grads and grad students

The All New 2007 Ford Edge

o7 college student purchase program

Ford LINCOLN MERCURY

**GRADUATES... TAKE NOTE!**

GM College GRAD

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS GREAT DEAL AND DRIVE HOME IN A NEW GM VEHICLE.

Get **\$400** GMAC allowance when you qualify to buy or lease an eligible new GM vehicle.

LOGON TO >  
[www.gmcollegegrad.com/IL012](http://www.gmcollegegrad.com/IL012)

CHEVROLET BUICK PONTIAC GMC SATURN HUMMER

Take delivery by 12/31/07. Residency and other restrictions apply. See dealer OR Visit [www.GMCollegeGrad.com](http://www.GMCollegeGrad.com) for details





## Staff

**Editor-in-Chief**  
Patrick O'Brien

**Associate Editor**  
Nick Gaudio

**Production Manager**  
Duncan Macnab

**Business Manager**  
Amy Scoma

**News Editor**  
Tom Robb

**Assistant News Editor**  
Kaitly Nicastrì

**Opinions Editor**  
Sophia López

**Features Editor**  
Jo Cook

**REV Editor**  
Mike Arch

**Production Editors**  
Jonathan Gronli  
David Mosher  
Michael Nguyen  
Mark Clover

**Online Editor**  
Amanda Dalal

**Photo Editor**  
Kaitly Nicastrì

**Business Assistant**  
T.C. Chung

**Photographers**  
Jonathon Winkler

**Distribution Manager**  
Mark Findlay

**Senior Staff Writers**  
Connie Patricia Herring  
Jessi Moen  
Mario Go  
Rolando Ithier III  
Felicia Maxa

**Staff Writers**  
Thelma Coleman  
Shirley Descorbeth  
Afifa Amin  
Lenny Ocasio  
Felicia Williams  
Regina Torres  
Patricia Shaw  
Natalie Avilez

**Media Advisor**  
Michael Wilson

**Faculty Advisor**  
Edie Rubinowitz

**Office Hours**  
Monday - Thursday  
9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Friday  
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

The Independent is a public forum for the community and university around Northeastern Illinois University.

The Independent is completely student run and receives no prior review of its content by anyone other than its student editors.

The Independent is published every other week except during summer and semester breaks. Deadlines are five (5) days prior to the issue in which a contribution is to appear. Views expressed in letters are those of the university community, and not those of the Editorial Board.

The Editor-in-Chief is responsible for the content of the Independent, and views presented do not necessarily represent those of the administration, faculty, or students.

The Independent is a member of the Illinois College Press Association and Associated Collegiate Press.

Independent,  
Northeastern Illinois University,  
Room E-049,  
5500 N. St. Louis Ave.  
Chicago, Illinois 60625

# Around Campus

Events, Deadlines, Club Meetings,  
Concerts, Job Listings and Study Tours

## April 30-June 26

Open Registration for Fall 2007

## May 15-17

Late Registration for Summer 2007

## Tuesday, April 24

Third Annual NEIU C.M.T. Student  
Showcase  
Stage Center Theatre

Auditions, Thymely Theatre  
For Summer 2007 Season  
1:30-3:00 p.m. Stage Center Theatre – F  
Wing  
Bring a prepared monologue

University Chorus & Chamber Singers  
Spring Concert  
7:30 p.m. NEIU Auditorium  
Free Admission

GREEK WEEK 2007  
Greek Unity Reception  
12:30-1:30 p.m. Golden Eagles

Greek Olympics  
1:30-3:00 p.m. University Commons

## Wednesday, April 25

GREEK WEEK 2007  
Coliseum of Knowledge  
12:00-1:00 p.m. Golden Eagles

## Thursday, April 26

Vigil honoring victims of Virginia Tech  
Moment of silence prayer service  
1:40 p.m. Courtyard outside Village Square  
A signature book which will be sent to Virginia  
Tech will be available for signing all week at  
the information booth in the Student Union

GREEK WEEK 2007  
Service Project  
10:00am-2:00pm, Village Square

## Friday, April 27

Swing into Spring  
1940s Swing Music and Dance Party  
Live Music Ft. NEIU Varsity Big Band &  
NEIU Jazz Lab Band  
Dance Lessons 7:30-8:00pm, Alumni Hall

Dance 8:00pm-Midnight, Alumni Hall  
Tickets: \$30, general; \$20, students  
More Information: (773) 442-4636

GREEK WEEK 2007

Pan-D'monium

NEIU Greek Stroll Show

\$5 for NEIU Students

\$7 for non-students

Tickets can be purchased from Information  
Desk

7:00-9:00pm, Auditorium

## Saturday, April 28

Free Home Buyers Workshop  
To register: (773) 442-4080  
Facilitated by LUCHA  
11:00am-2:00pm, El Centro  
3119 N. Pulaski Rd.

Socialism Conference in Chicago  
Register: (773) 920-7590  
3460 W. Lawrence  
11:00am-5:00pm

## Monday, April 30

Black Heritage Gospel Choir  
Through the Fire Concert  
7:30-10:00pm, Alumni Hall

## Tuesday-Thursday, May 1-3

STUDENT STRESS-FREE ZONE

Come relax between museums  
Chair massage, food, games  
Free with Student ID  
9:30am-2:30pm, SU-214

ΘΧΩ Summer Rush

RSVP to [neiu\\_thetas@yahoo.com](mailto:neiu_thetas@yahoo.com)

Monday:

12:30pm – Let's Eat: Comamos, mangiamo  
8:30pm – Panda Purchases

Tuesday:

3:00pm – Ladybug Nature Hikes  
5:00pm – Multicultural Meal

Wednesday:

2:00pm – Lakeshore Beach Lily  
8:00pm – Want S'More?

Thursday:

12:00pm – Relaxation & Beauty  
7:00pm – A Night of Stars

Friday-Sunday:



# Golden Opportunities

## For Sale/Rent

**STS.** Travel with STS to this year's top 10 spring break destinations! Best deals guaranteed! Highest rep commissions. Visit [www.statravel.com](http://www.statravel.com) or call 1-800-648-4849. Great group discounts.

**For Rent:** Large 5 room, 2 bedroom apartment near Foster/Kedzie. Second floor in a clean, decorated four flat. All you lay is light and phone. Laundry and storage in building. \$900/month + security deposit and references. Declawed cats only. For more info, call Ruth-773-478-4474 or 773-509-0397.

**For rent:** Large 3 bedroom apartment. Near brown line and walking distance of NEIU. Must see! For more info call Monica (773) 213-9996 or Francis (773) 771-2167.

**e-Machines - 335 Desktop computer for sale** Intel Celeron D processor, 80 GB HD, 256 MB DDRSD RAM including Lexmark printer. Victor (847) 966-8955

## Wanted

**Congratulations Graduates!** Celebrate with a Spa Day, body wraps, waxing, eurofacial, cut/color/ special occasion makeup. 20% discount with ad. 847-568-9191.

**Experienced GRE tutor** needed. 10-20 hours per week. Contact the McNair Scholars Program at 773-442-4253.

**Earn with Arbonne:** get a 35% discount and earn money with botanically based skincare, cosmetics, and nutrition. How? Visit <http://roseguccione.myarbonne.com>

**Tune in** to moving forward, Thursdays at 5pm on Channel 21, a talk show that discusses today's urban sociological issues.

**Chicago music scene.** Looking for someone involved in Chicago music scene to run an open mike at local bar. Must be 21, might require some bartending. Experience not necessary, but enthusiasm and time to work and promote new talent is. Inquire at [deortle@yahoo.com](mailto:deortle@yahoo.com) or leave message at 847-358-6533.

**Math tutor.** GMAT math tutor. A Ph.D. at Northwestern University. Math genius. Got full scores in GRE Math & Logic. Email: [leo2523754@hotmail.com](mailto:leo2523754@hotmail.com).

**Part-time \$10.00 per hr.** Flexible schedule. PR reps 17-25 preferred to cover events including Cubs and White Sox. Javier Diaz 773-294-3182. [javierdiaz@approvedpromotions.net](mailto:javierdiaz@approvedpromotions.net)

**Now Hiring wait staff** - Full-time and part-time Renga-tei Japanese Restaurant. Must be willing to learn about Japanese food call 847-675-5177.

**Tired of getting screwed by selling** your books to Becks? Want more money for them? Call 773-592-6128

or email [bahsarie@hotmail.com](mailto:bahsarie@hotmail.com).

**Start your own business** from home and be financially well off before you graduate. Call 1(888) 283-1967, visit [www.earnhealthy.theonlinebusiness.com](http://www.earnhealthy.theonlinebusiness.com).

**Earn up to \$18 per page** doing layout for the *Independent*. Photographers and writers are also needed and paid well. (773) 442-4577 Room E 049 near the Cafeteria.

**I am looking for** a part time sitter or if you work around the area of Cortland/Wolcott by Damen even

better to pick up my 3yr toddler from school (2:45 pm) and drop off by Belmont/Kolmar (or liver around this area. One hour or less of a drive. Will pay \$20 a week but negotiable M-F when school is in session. If someone else lives by Belmont/Kolmar to pick her up around 8 am to be in school by 9 am. References needed. Early Education major or minor preferred. Sometimes half-day school. Will need to pick up @ 12:25 pm or before. (312) 363-8128 please leave a # and time to call back. I will interview ASAP and will hire 4 qualified candidates.

## Clubs

**The Bicycle Club** meets Thursday, April 12th. Room CLS-3056, 1:40 p.m. New members welcome. <http://www.neiu.edu/~BikeNEIU>

**Intervarsity Christian Fellowship.** We exist to know Jesus better and to love the campus with the love of Christ. Tuesdays 1:40 - 2:40pm FA 153.

## Personals

## Classified Ads are FREE!



Limit one ad per person/organization per issue. Ads must be 20 words or less. There is a 25 cent charge for each word over 20 words. All classified ads must be ordered in person at the *Independent* office in E-049. For more information, please call Amy Scoma, business manager, at 773-442-4585.

*\* This rate applies to members of the NEIU community only. An NEIU identification card must be presented at the time of purchase.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

NEIU I. D. #: \_\_\_\_\_

Run Date (s): \_\_\_\_\_

Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Your New NEIU Online Connection!

### Create Your own Group or Join an Existing Group in NEIUport

The Groups function of NEIUport provides you with the ability to join or create and manage your own homepages for clubs, class work, and specific interests. It is your personalized space on NEIUport to:

- ✓ Post Announcements
- ✓ Share Information
- ✓ Post Photos and Documents
- ✓ Chat

Click on the Groups icon in the upper right hand corner when you are in NEIUport. Three tabs will appear: My Groups, Groups Index and Request a Group.

Search for existing groups to join in the "Groups Index" or create your own group by clicking on "Request a Group."

For more information about creating or joining groups go to the About NEIUport tab in NEIUport.



## NEIUport

Send feedback and NEIUport content suggestions to [portal@neiu.edu](mailto:portal@neiu.edu). We want to hear from you!

BE CONNECTED. BE INFORMED. BE YOURSELF.